



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION VIII (8EPR-PS)
999 18th STREET - SUITE 300
DENVER, COLORADO 80202-2466



MEMORANDUM

Spring 2001

SUBJECT: Inspection of the Bagging Plant Prior to Final Cleanup

TO: Paul Peronard

FROM: Chris Weis

Prior to final cleanup of the bagging plant in Libby, Mr. Greg Parana and I inspected the facility for possible remaining vermiculite contamination and other safety hazards. The attached photos document our findings and observations.

I was interested in visiting the facility following the W.R. Grace cleanup to assure that there was no remaining material that might pose a hazard to children who might visit the facility, possible future tenants or others in the vicinity.

During our visit, and as documented in the attached photos, we observed several areas where the cleanup was incomplete. There was unprocessed ore in areas of every building we entered. Unprocessed ore and vermiculite was identified on the surface and in at least one subsurface area (2-3" in depth) that we turned over by hand. Unprocessed vermiculite (concentrate) was observable in all buildings as well. Much of the material remained on windowsills and foot plates of the buildings as if no effort had been made to assure final removal of asbestos.

In addition to the presence of asbestos-contaminated vermiculite in these buildings we identified two areas of extreme safety hazard at the site. One structural opening to a small hopper area was left uncovered posing a serious hazard to children who might play on the site. An individual who might fall or crawl into this space would not be easily found or rescued. Additionally, we identified structural building damage that appeared to have been caused by the W.R. Grace clean-up contractor. The damage clearly weakened the integrity of the scale building and may have increased the likelihood of a catastrophic failure of the structure.

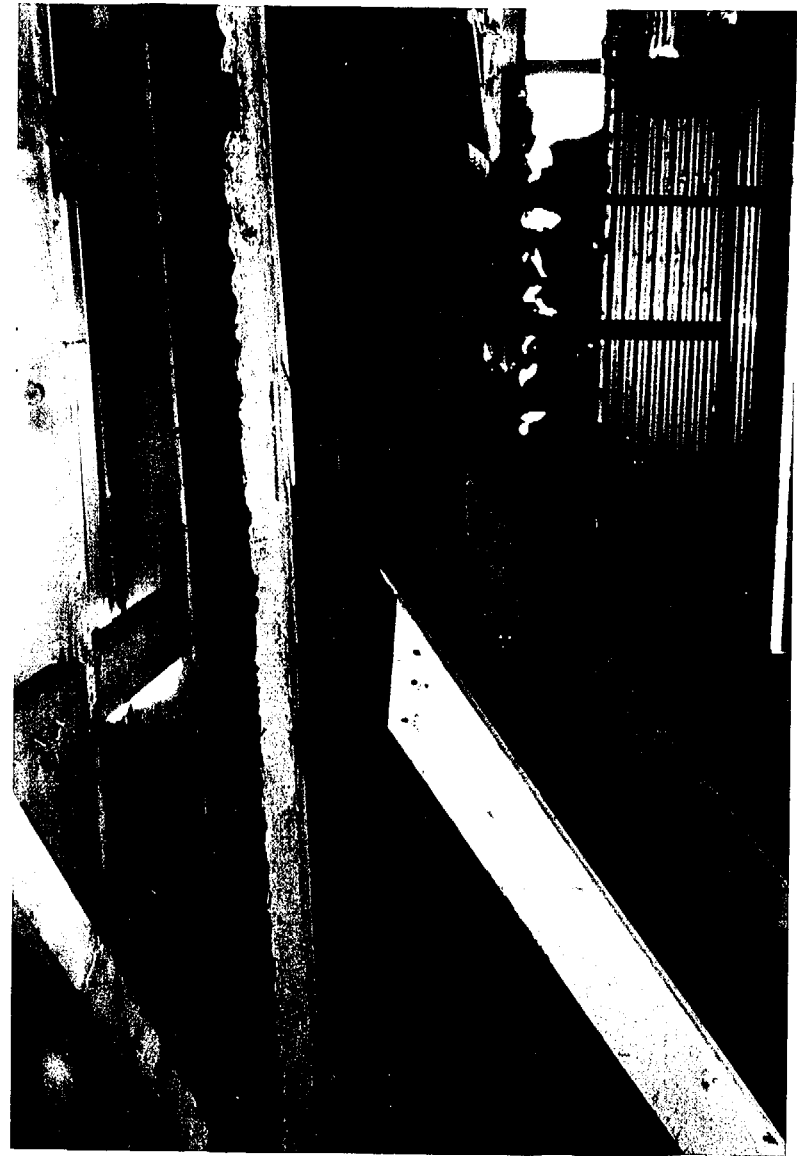
As a result of our findings during this inspection, I encourage you to take immediate steps to alleviate these hazards. It is unfortunate that W. R. Grace was unable to adequately clean up this area during the first attempt.

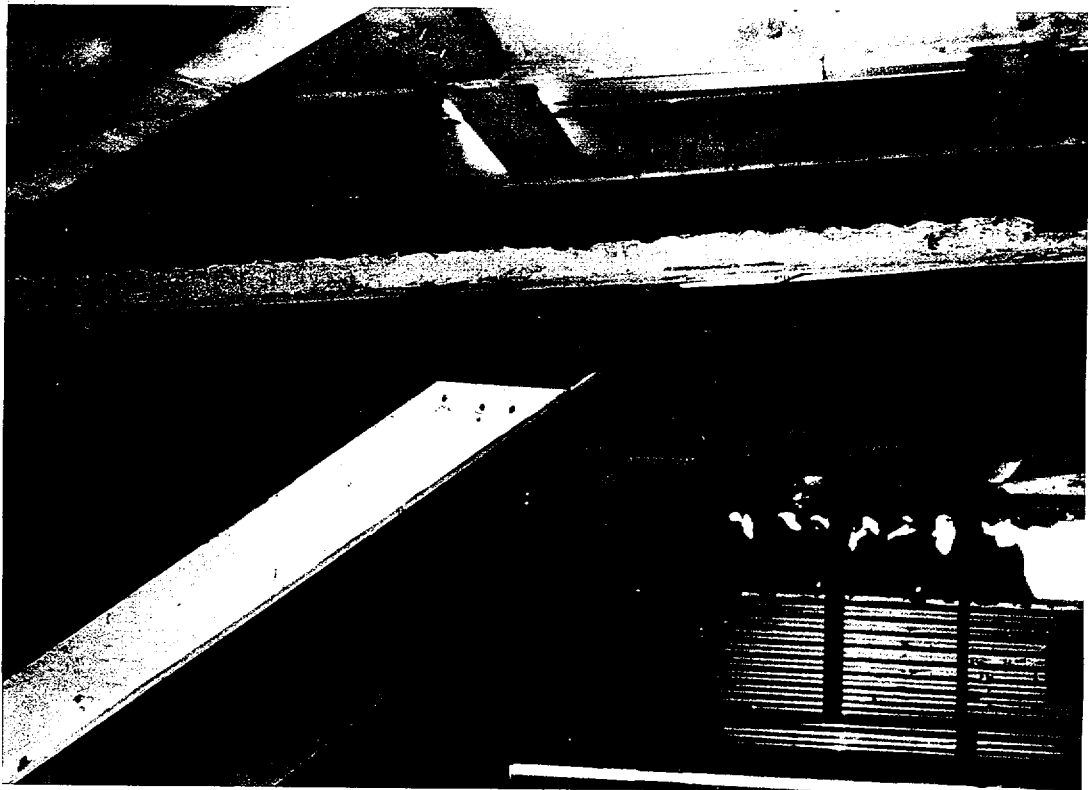
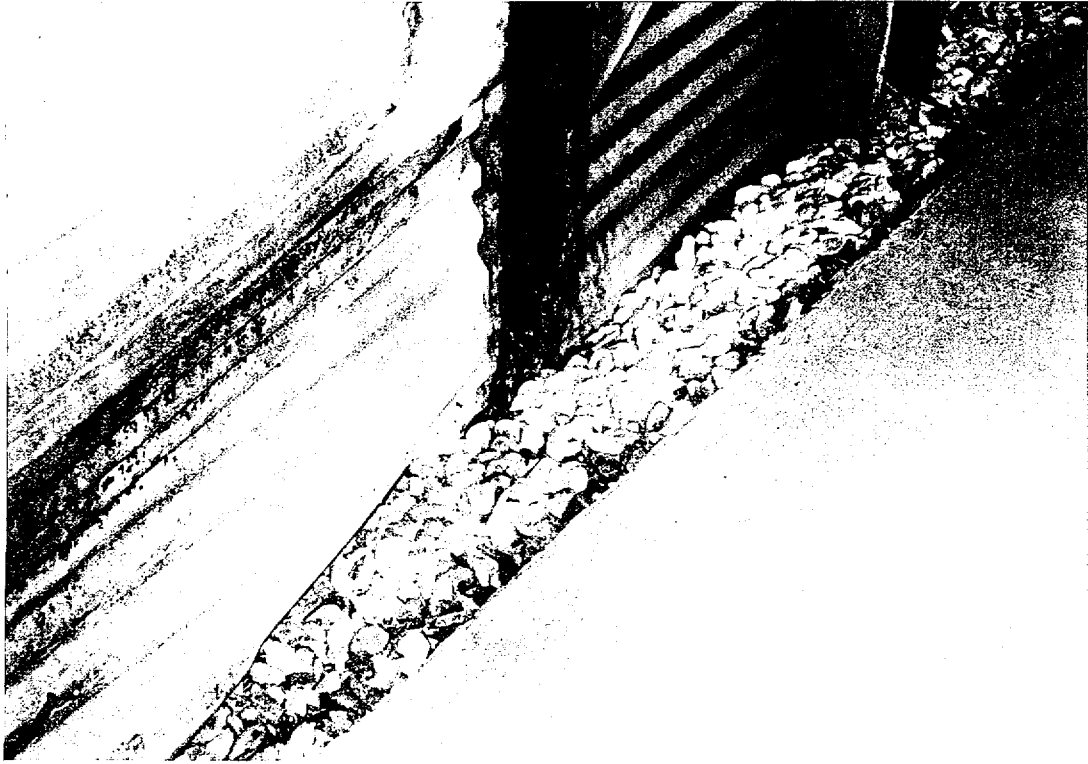
Color Photo(s)

The following pages contain color
that does not appear in the
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To view the actual images, please
contact the Superfund Records
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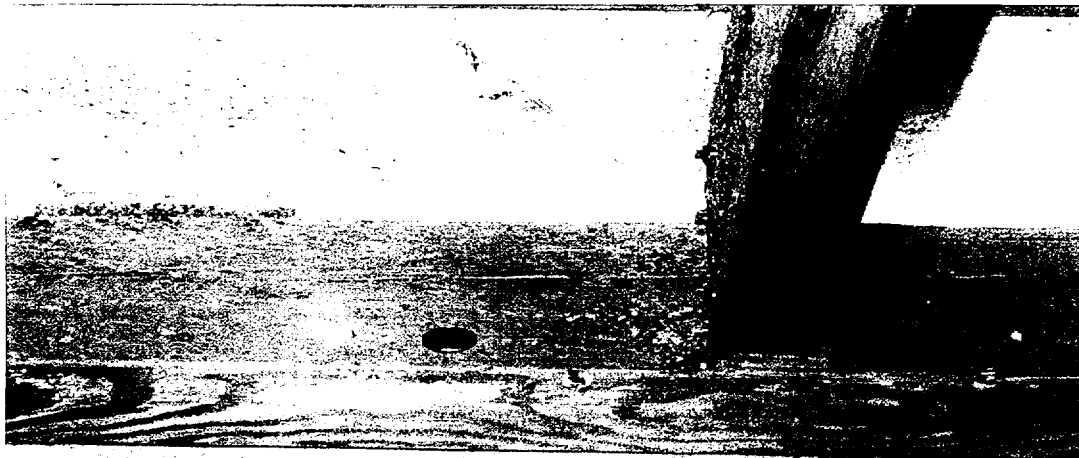






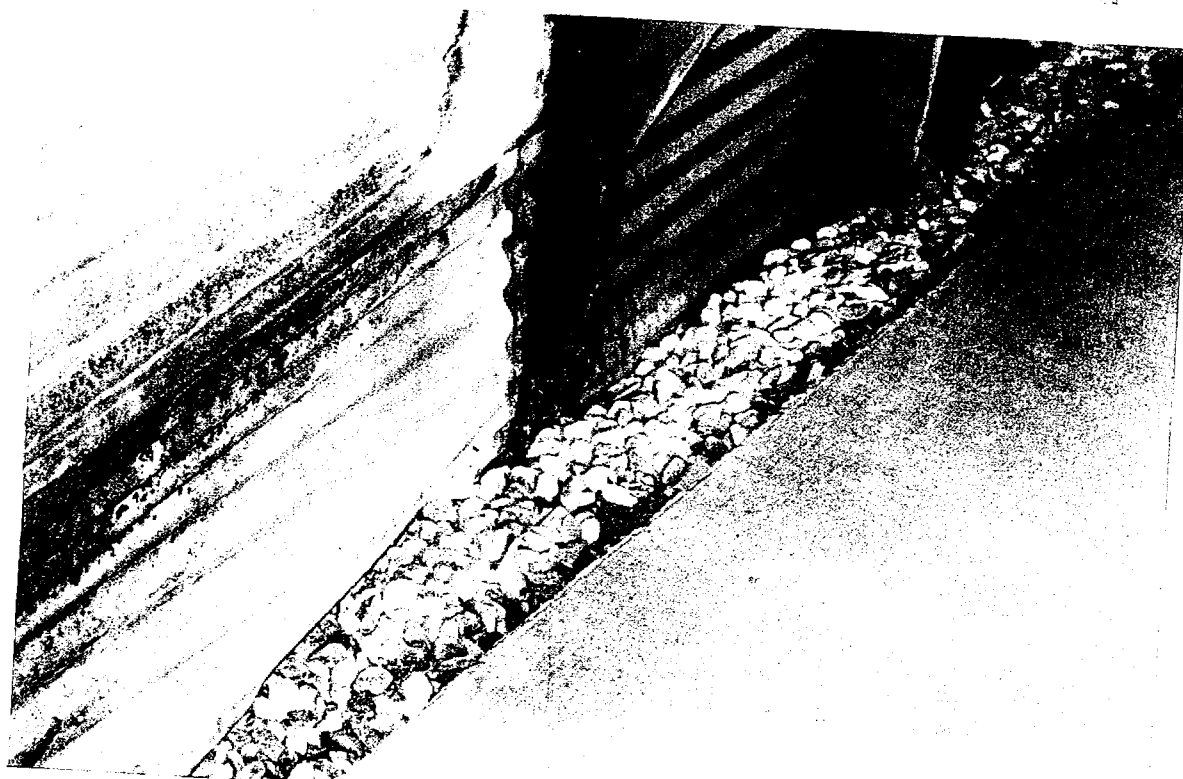
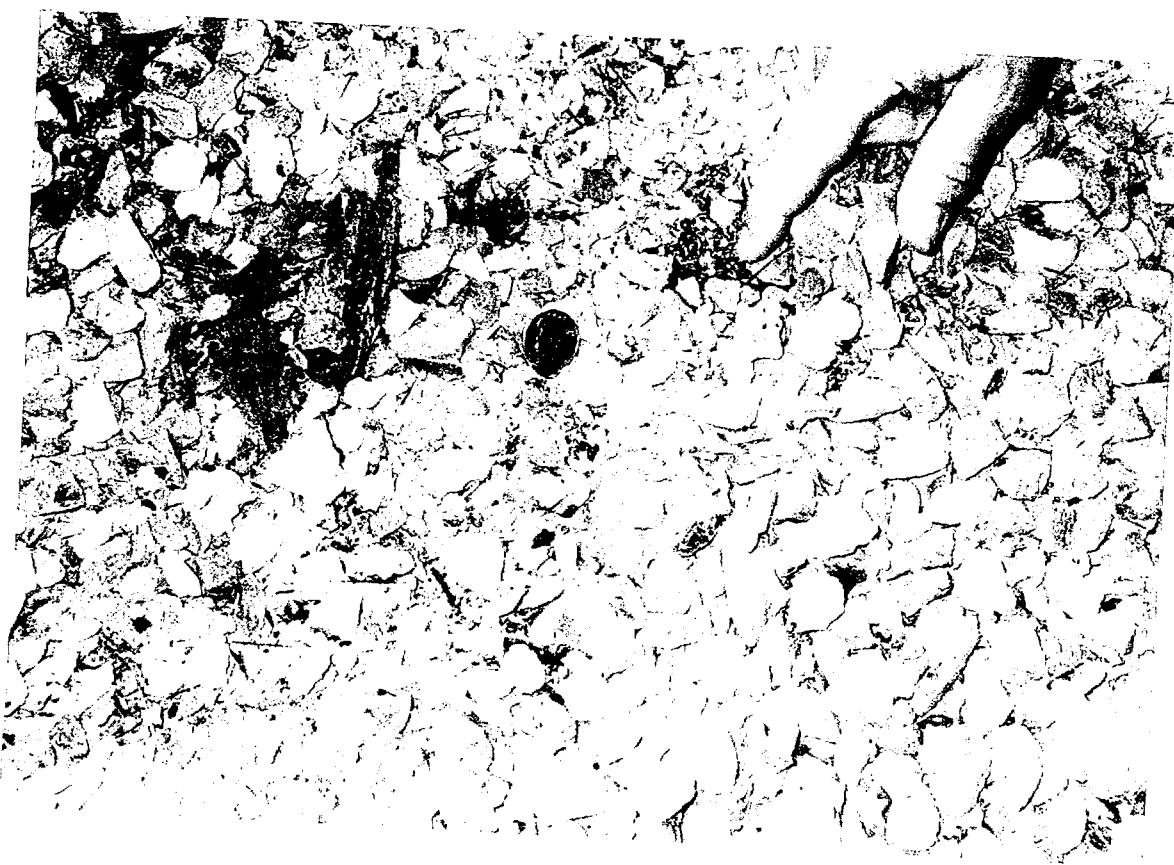




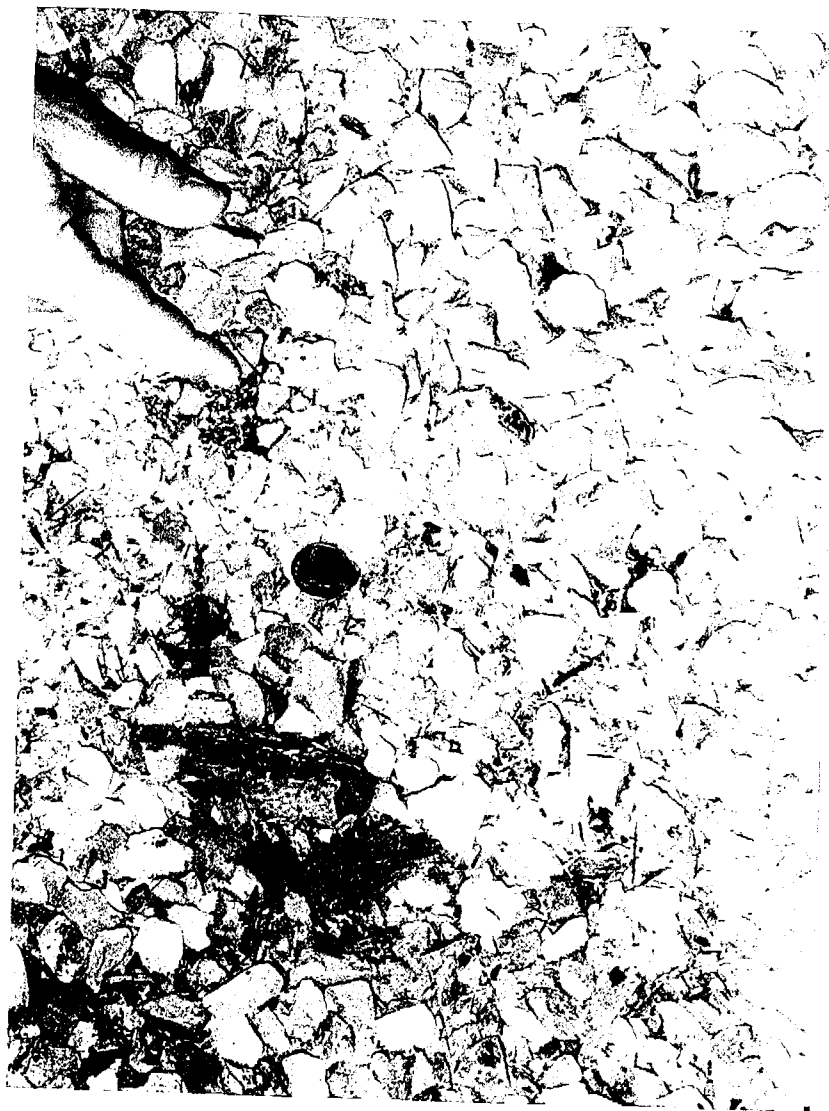




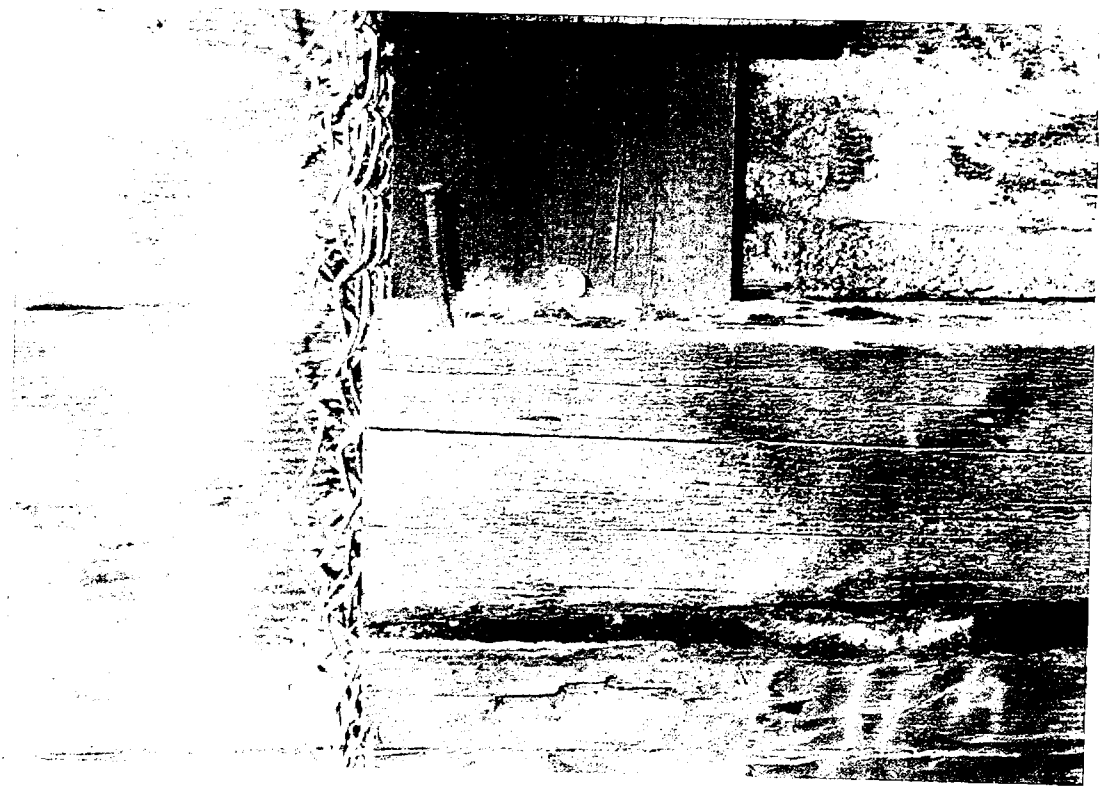




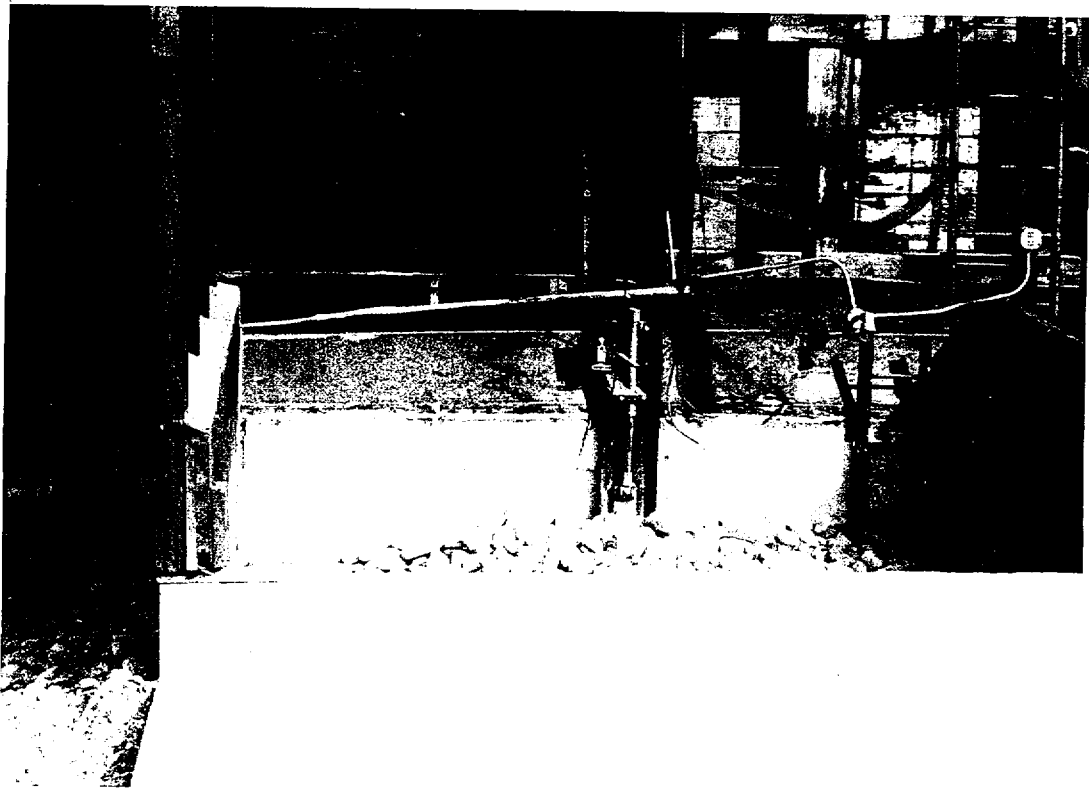


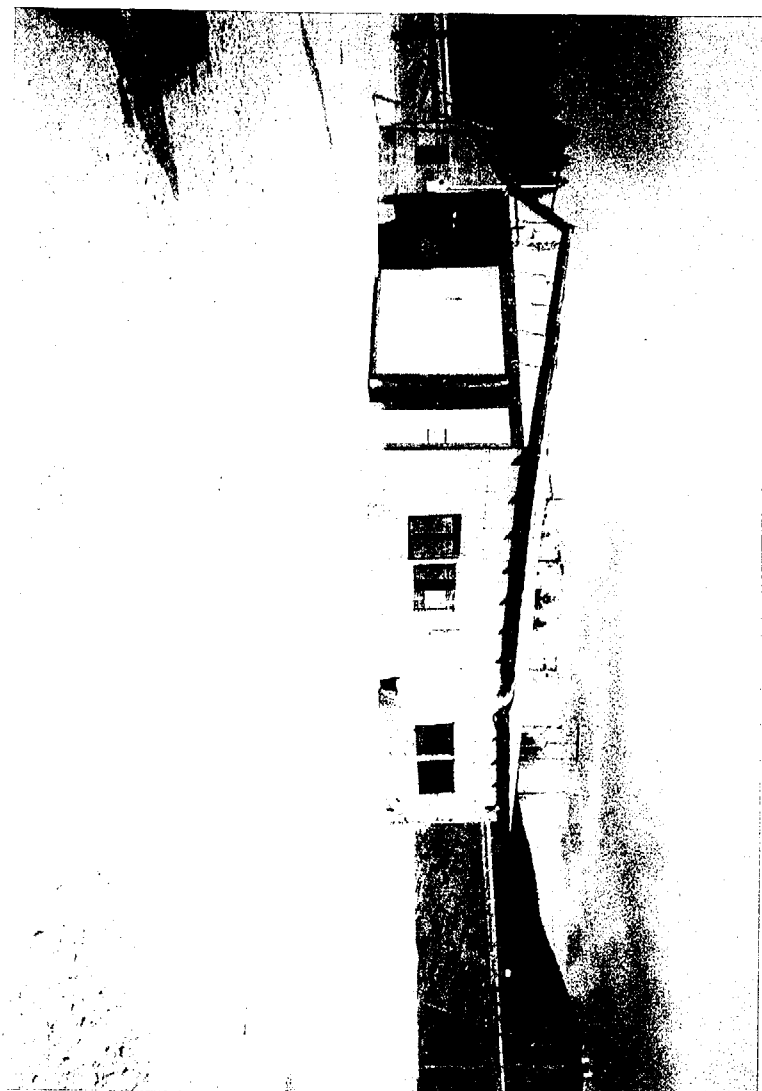




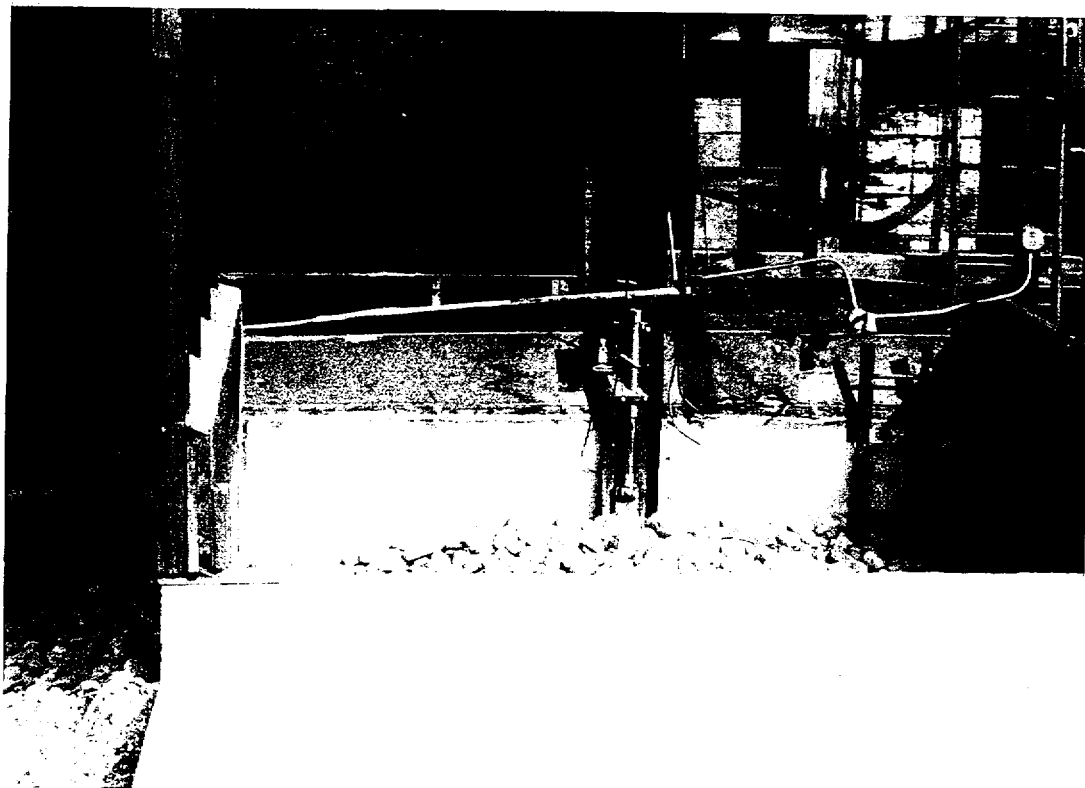








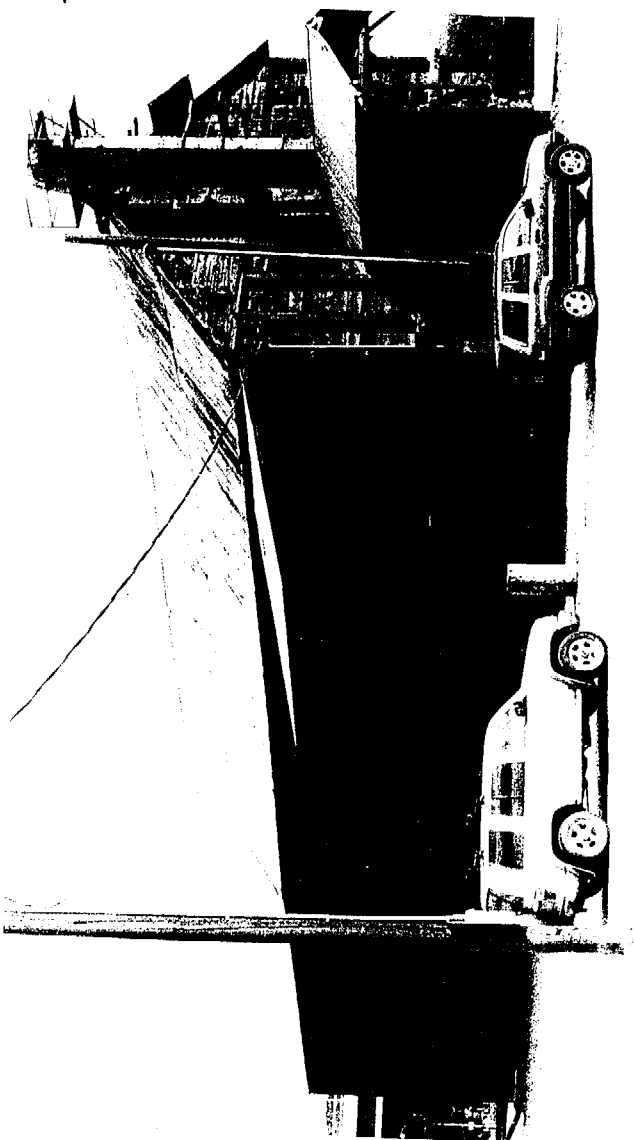


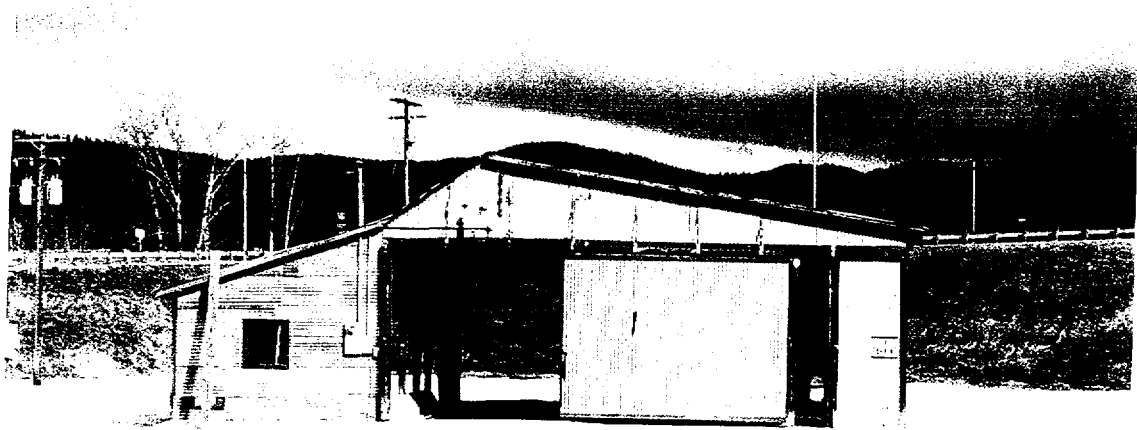
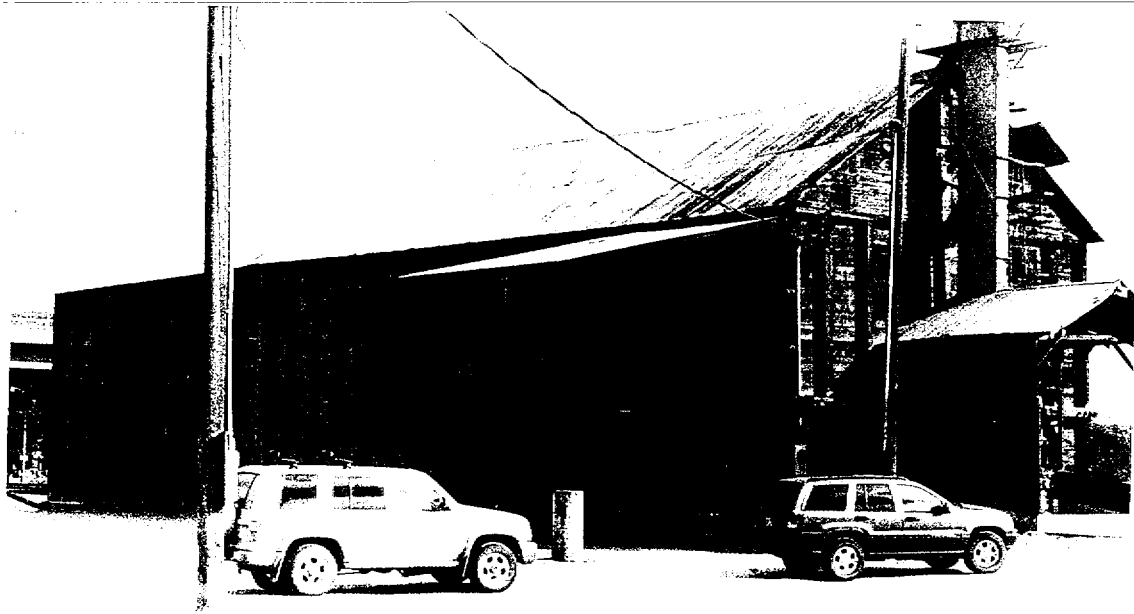


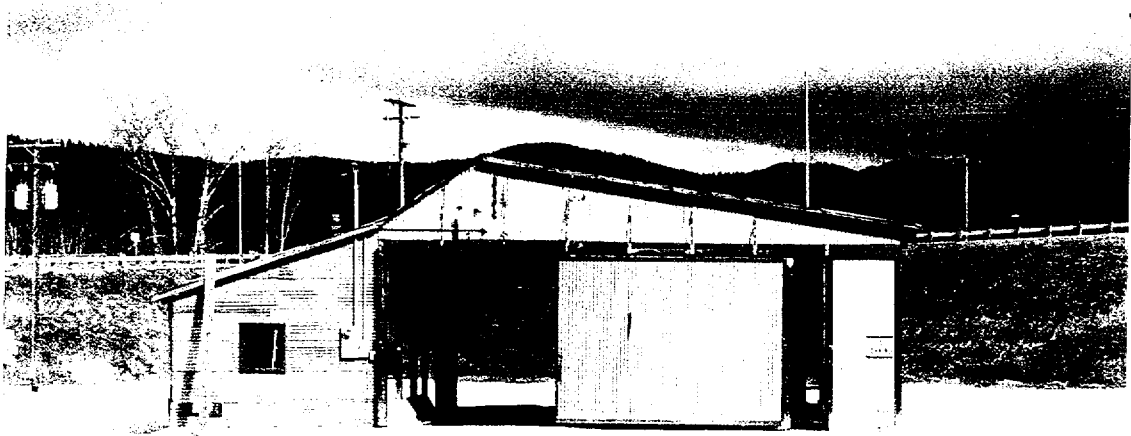


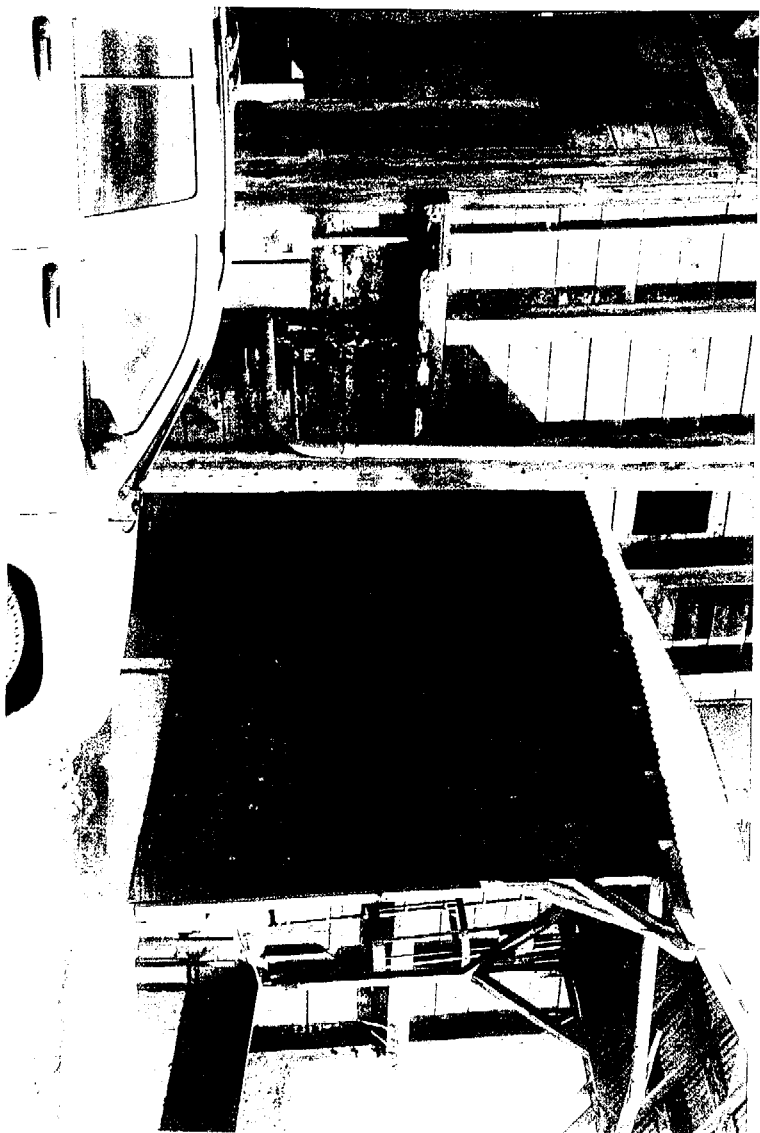
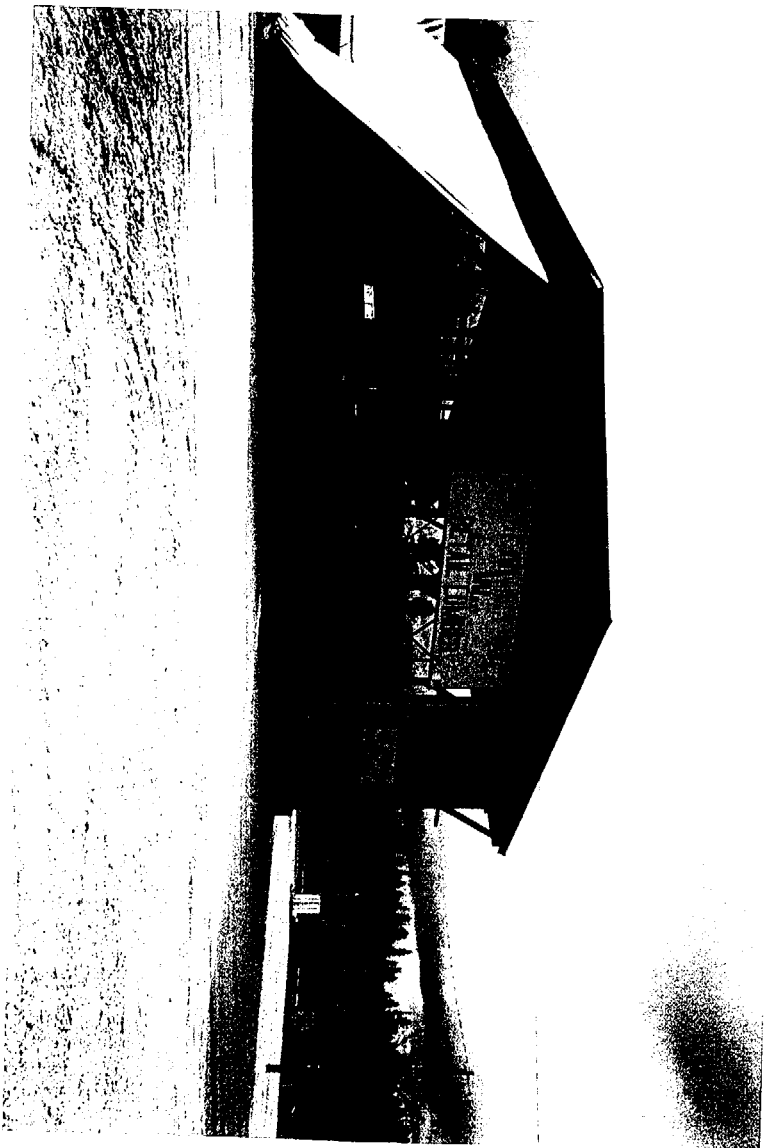












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